

Affairs obligation to assist veterans in filing claims for benefits, and H.R. 3193, Duty to Assist Veterans Act of 1999. Testimony was heard from Joseph Thompson, Under Secretary, Benefits, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and representatives of veterans organizations.

## CHILD PROTECTION ISSUES

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Human Resources held a hearing on Child Protection Issues. Testimony was heard from Senators DeWine and Rockefeller; Representative Pryce of Ohio; Kristine Ragaglia, Commissioner, Department of Children and Families, State of Connecticut; and public witnesses.

## SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFICIARIES—WORK INCENTIVES FOR BLIND AND DISABLED

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing on Work Incentives for Blind and Disabled Social Security Beneficiaries. Testimony was heard from: Representative Ehrlich; Susan Daniels, Deputy Commissioner, Disability and Income Security Program, SSA; Barbara Bovbjerg, Associate Director, Education, Workforce and Income Security Issues, Health, Education and Human Services Division, GAO; and public witnesses.

## INTELLIGENCE MATTERS

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Met in executive session to hold hearings on the National Security Agency Legal Authorities and on the Consolidated Cryptologic Program. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

## Joint Meetings

### ORGANIZED CRIME AND CORRUPTION

*Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki):* Commission concluded hearings on the impact of organized crime and corruption on democratic and economic reform in southeast Europe and Central Asia, regional and international efforts to address this threat, and the effect it has on United States security, economic and political interests, after receiving testimony from Rob Boone, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs; James K. Weber, Deputy Assistant Director, International Operations Branch, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice; John Tennant, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, U.S. Agency for International Development; Adrian Karatnycky, Freedom House, New York, New York; and Nancy Lubin, JNA Associates, Inc., Washington, D.C.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2000

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

### Senate

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, to hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Defense and the Future Years Defense Program, focusing on DOD policies and programs to combat terrorism, 9:30 a.m., SR-222.

*Committee on Governmental Affairs:* to hold oversight hearings to examine rising oil prices, Executive Branch policy, and U.S. security implications, 10 a.m., SD-342.

### House

*Committee on Commerce,* Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing on the Department of Energy's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2001, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

*Committee on Government Reform,* Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology, hearing on "Key Differences Between Public-Private-Sector CIO'S", 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

## CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of March 27 through April 1, 2000

### Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, Senate will begin consideration of S.J. Res. 14, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States, with certain amendments to be proposed thereto.

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of S.J. Res. 14, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States, with votes on or in relation to the pending amendments to occur beginning at 2:15 p.m.

During the remainder of the week, Senate may consider any other cleared legislative and executive business.

### Senate Committees

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

*Special Committee on Aging:* March 27, to hold hearings to examine income taxes, focusing on solutions to the Social Security and Medicare crisis, 2 p.m., SD-562.

*Committee on Appropriations:* March 28, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, to hold hearings to examine issues dealing with mind body and alternative medicines, 9:30 a.m., SD-192.

March 28, Subcommittee on Transportation, to hold hearings to examine the implementation of the Driver's